

## II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of separating a selected ionic component from a sample, which comprises contacting the sample with an ionic adsorbent whose charge density is such that the ionic component is bound selectively to the ionic adsorbent in the absence of an added second ionic component that competitively binds the adsorbent, wherein the charge density of the ionic adsorbent is 10 to 100  $\mu\text{mol/ml}$ .
2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ionic adsorbent is ~~cationic~~ a cation-exchange adsorbent.
3. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the adsorbent comprises a sulphopropyl group.
4. (cancelled)
5. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sample comprises two ionic components, and wherein the charge density of the adsorbent is selected such that only one of the two components is bound.
6. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the selected ionic component is a protein.
7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5 ~~6~~, wherein the protein is an immunoglobulin.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim-4 6, wherein the sample comprises, in addition to the protein, protein A.
9. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1, which further comprises eluting the bound component.
10. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the charge density of the ionic adsorbent is from about 20 to about 90  $\mu\text{mol/ml}$ .
11. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the charge density of the ionic adsorbent is from about 30 to about 80  $\mu\text{mol/ml}$ .